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April, 1959

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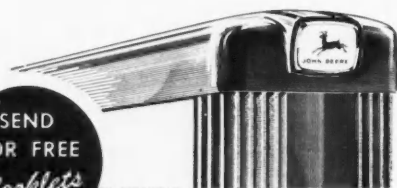
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# Cornell Countryman

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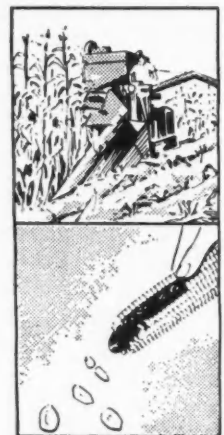
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## Editorial

### Do Scientists Need an Education?

ONE of the greatest shortages in the United States is not only the lack of qualified scientists, but of scientists who can tell each other what they are doing. How often do scientists in different fields duplicate each others research, wasting time, money, and laboratory facilities. An agronomist in New Jersey hasn't the time to wade through the morass of technical jargon and confused organization of a California geneticist's research report. The need is for clear, concise and unencumbered communication between men of science.

The contemporary scientist must be able to communicate. No longer can an experimenter lock himself in his garage and emerge periodically with a revolutionary discovery. Modern science is a mosaic of many fields and the overlap is tremendous.

No matter what kind of work the scientist does he has to exchange views with his fellows. He has to write to them and he has to address them at conventions. Even more demanding is getting an idea across to a layman, most of whom are notoriously unable to understand technical language.

The only way a scientist can spread his ideas is to meet other people, professional and laymen, on common grounds. Those grounds are not found in burettes and Erleumeyer flasks, but in those areas that go under the name "liberal arts."

On campus, which professors are the most successful in passing on their knowledge to students? It's the ones who are urbane enough to present a subject in a clear manner and make reference to things within the student's experience.

Fortunately, in the College of Agriculture it is possible to get a genuine education, not just a training. Courses in every school on campus are available to the students who want them.

But, many ag school students, after a two term clash with the dreary freshman English course, never again venture off the upper campus. Others feel that they must concentrate on their major and avoid any other courses.

By and large, the more advanced courses in the other colleges are stimulating and intelligently presented. It's about time to make that once a term pilgrimage to your advisor. Try to fit a course in the humanities into your schedule.

The broader the individual's background the more valuable he is to agriculture and to science. You owe yourself an education, why not get one?

—S.A.B.

APRIL, 1959

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## All That Jazz . . .

### Comstock Cockroaches Fight Back

by Zilch

**H**ARM and Home week is past and Zilch has regained his composure and mended his bones. Zilch was ambling down Tower Road past Rice Hall when his eagle-sharp ears heard the gentle thunder of running female feet. Turning agilely and placing an engaging grin on his face, Zilch stood waiting patiently for the high school girls to gather 'round and plead for autographs. Surprisingly enough, the girls never slowed down and Zilch fell under their thundering hooves, but fought gamely to the last. He just managed to raise his head when the reasons for the girls' haste passed over his body in a flash of blue corduroy jackets.

Zilch notes that Dr. W. Keith Kennedy has been appointed associate director of research of the Colleges of Agriculture and Home Economics. This post oversees the 600 research projects that are in progress.

Department of Morbid Statistics: Only 42 days until finals.

Zilch sat with his cavernous mouth open in awe watching Dave Auble's wrestling prowess, last month. The soft spoken Ag Ec major's feline grace, strength, and grappling savvy make him one of the nation's top practioners of the cauliflower-ear sport. Zilch's congratulations go out to Dave for his great successes in the Eastern and National Championships.

Comstock Hall, the home of the entomology department—those men who wage unceasing war upon our insect enemies—is an enigma. It's overrun with

cockroaches. The reason, Zilch's informant divulges, is that if they spray the cockroaches the spray will kill the caged insects they are trying to raise, as well.

Undergrads who have a sincere interest in agricultural economics might try to take in the departmental seminar at 4:00 o'clock on Monday afternoons. The topics are usually vital and timely.

As a reward for suffering through Zilch this month, Zilch has a complete, unabridged, uncensored paragraph that was censored by the puritanical editor from an article appearing elsewhere in this issue. "Sweden has made a notable contribution to world culture in the last few years in the person of Miss Anita Eckberg. Granted that Miss Eckberg constitutes a formidable production figure, Sweden can also take pride in other products more agrarian in nature." Zilch would like to thank the managing editor and the printer without whose cooperation this section would never have gotten into print.

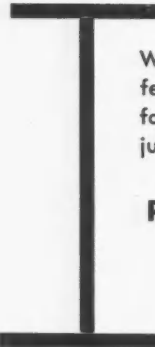
Here's an extra-curricular activity that should have a great following. Formed by senior Smedly Krimthrust the club is called "Bustees of Physics 103-104". Krimthrust was elected to the presidency by acclamation when it was discovered that he has busted Physics 103 twice and Physics 104 three times. Proposed activities for the club are sticking pins in cloth dolls looking like physics instructors and lobbying for a congressional act to stem the destructive influence of these two courses. Zilch is a charter member.

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1945: Fan drying experiments at Westinghouse Home Economics Institute

## 50 Years in Home Economics

by Brenda L. Dervin '60

ADVERTISING agencies, industrial concerns, and corporations are demanding home economists to represent the views of the American women in their business transactions. But what is home economics? Why the great demand for the services of women majoring in the field? The story started about fifty years ago with the founding of the American Home Economics Association.

Even though Home Economics has really been a science since families began, the founding of this organization marks the recognition of home economics as a field of study, a venture that includes both research and education directed toward the improvement of conditions in the home, the institutional household, and the community.

In these fifty years, Home Economics as a united field has made amazing strides in nutrition, housing, economic understanding, child care, and textiles and clothing. The list of achievements is impressive—almost overwhelming.

Through the efforts of professional home economists, the understanding of every-day nutrition has led to the ousting of cults and fads about food practices. Nutrition is now a by-word. Professional research has been responsible in part for government action such as the enrichment of cereals.

Hand in hand with food practices come a family's physical welfare, and mental and emotional health. And, here again, professional home economists have been leaders in enacting improvements. . . in sanitation, physical hygiene, work simplification, and family relationships. Research in child development has led to more satisfying lives within the home and to better group care of children outside the home. At no other time in history has more emphasis been placed on adjustment with peers and the needs of the family during its development.

Household tasks have been simplified not only through technological developments but better cookbooks, proper labeling, and a sifting

of the essential from the non-essential in household tasks.

The great strides in education have been partially due to home economists: the development of effective instruction and evaluation of results.

Most important, the field of Home Economics has helped give a status to homemaking and, at the same time, has opened numerous professional opportunities as well as services that can be offered to society. Along with the recognition of the women's role in the home, the man's role in family well-being has been emphasized.

In fifty years, Home Economics and its national association have helped the attainment of better levels of living. Home Economics may claim partial credit for the progress toward more healthful, comfortable, and satisfying living.

The whole philosophy of Home Economics and the reason that there is such a demand for home economists today can be best summed up in the words of Ellen H. Richards, the first woman student in Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a pioneer of the profession of home economics:

"The ideal of home life for today" . . . should be . . . "unhampered by the tradition of the past. The utilization of all the resources of modern sciences to improve home life. The freedom of the home from the dominance of things and their due subordination to ideals. The simplicity in material surroundings which will most free the spirit for the more important and permanent interest of home and society."

### *Unexpected Guests?*

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## Do - It - Yourself . . .

### Silkscreening

by Peggy FitzGerald '61

ANYONE who enjoys experimenting with color, textures, and shapes can have a lot of fun with silk screen printing. It no longer has to be a complicated process and can be quite simple.

A silk screen is the primary requirement. It is easily constructed from a gift box from a shirt or slip. A cut is made starting from about an inch from the edges to remove the center of the box. A piece of inexpensive or expensive organdy, depending on your girlfriend's dress, furnishes the screen. If you don't have a girlfriend, try a dry goods store. Don't cut too big a hole in her dress but make sure that it is large enough to cover the outside of the box including the vertical edges. So that she can't take it away from you, staple the organdy tightly to the box. Now you have a silk screen box.

Spread newspapers over a table to protect it. On top of this put the material, such as cardboard, which you will print on. Now cut out, for example, a paper doll pattern, place it on top of the cardboard and cover it with the screen box. You now have a stack with the screen box, your paper doll pattern, cardboard, and newspaper on the table.

Cover the box, inside and out, with masking tape and leave the center exposed. After the box is well covered, it is shellacked heavily for waterproofing. Care should be taken to avoid drops on the center opening. In addition to being sloppy, the shellac would leave a lasting impression on the screen and unintentionally act as a stencil.

You print with a paint mixture. Mix Ivory Snow with liquid tempera. You can also mix a good quality powder tempera with water

and Ivory Snow if you like to sneeze. When you are finished, the mixture should be like pudding.

Printing generally begins with the lightest color and ends with the darkest. Spoon out three or four tablespoons of the first color. With pressure, drag the paint across the screen with a small window squeegee. Make sure all areas of the screen are covered. Lift the screen box and you will find that you have an outline of your paper doll pattern in color. The pattern will stick to the bottom of the box. Make several prints and then peel the pattern from the box. Wipe the screen as clean as possible with a dry cloth followed by a damp cloth or sponge. Repeat the process until you have a well-balanced composition or background. Overlapping of colors gives depth.

Simplicity in color, detail, and composition is advisable for beginners. At first, it is best to make your composition as you go. Then you can experiment with colors, textures, and shapes most easily. Let your imagination run wild.

If you want to add finer details, you can make a stencil. This can be done by cutting a design on wax paper, mineograph stencil backs, or regular silk screen stencil paper. You can also make a stencil by laying strips of masking tape back and forth across the back of the screen.

You can use any materials such as cardboard, wrapping paper, or towels to print on. This material can be either rough or smooth in texture for a variety of interesting effects. The development of good water soluble paint has made textile printing simple enough so that you can even design material for a new dress for your girlfriend.

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THE Viking of today is not the savage man of blood and thunder glorified in legend. In fact, the exploits of the modern Swede are most often glorified in production records. In many cases the Viking has quit the Seven Seas and substituted the tractor for the ship.

Agricultural production in Sweden is quite varied, and this, in part, is caused by the wide variation in climate. Sweden lies on the same latitude as Alaska and Greenland but the warm winds from Atlantic and Gulf Stream waters warm the country, even though the climate is colder toward the north.

In land area, Sweden is about the size of the New England states, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania combined.

Any discussion of Swedish agriculture invariably involves the cooperative system. It was during the difficult period in the thirties that agricultural cooperation got a solid start in Sweden.

Ulf Janson, a special student studying agricultural economics here, was asked what the farmer's cooperative movement meant to him as a Swedish farmer. Ulf said that his father would probably be a better person to ask since he started farming in the thirties before the movement started. There were many farmers and they were all fighting among themselves. The cooperative movement brought unity to Swedish farmers and, with unity, strength.

The keynote of Swedish agriculture is cooperation and organization. The Federation of Swedish Farmers safeguards and promotes the interests of organizations in the cooperative system and represents the farmers in dealings with the government and other groups.

Under the Federation of Swedish Farmers, the cooperative system is broken down into associations for each commodity with local and national branches. The local associations are in charge of collecting, processing, and sales within their respective areas. The national organizations take over all surpluses, distribute them among deficit areas, and handle exports.

# Agriculture and e

"The Land of dr

by Edward L. Razinsky '61

For instance, the National Association of Swedish Dairies handles about 95 per cent of milk delivered to all dairies in the country. This organization has a large membership because the majority of Swedish farmers go in for milk production. It seems that even the Swedish cattle breeds are dedicated to cooperation. There are three main breeds that are used for both milk production and beef. The Swedish Friesian (SLB), the Swedish Hornless (SKB), and the Swedish Red and White (SRB) constitute the bulk of Swedish cattle with the SRB most widely used. These breeds are extremely cooperative and thrive in various climates and conditions, giving high yields of milk and meat.

The Swedish Farmers' Meat Marketing Association operates processing plants and handles the marketing of meat products.

Wheat, sugar beets, hay, potatoes, barley, rye, and other crops are marketed by the Swedish Farmers' Selling and Purchasing Association. This organization also purchases supplies for crop farms.

Similarly, eggs, forest products, fur, oil plants, flax and hemp, and all other agricultural products are collected, processed, and marketed through its own association.

Agricultural organization involves not only marketing and production but also occupation. The National Federation of Rural Residents is similar in function to the Farm Bureau of the United States. There is the Swedish Agricultural Employers Association which is a collective bargaining agent.



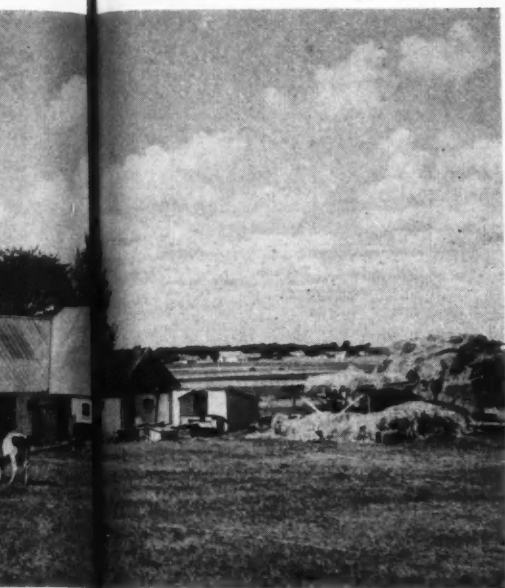
A farm scene in Sweden

Sweden is primarily a country of small holdings, with the average farm running from 50 to 80 acres depending on the growing conditions of the region. The cooperative system is particularly beneficial for this sized farm. Ulf Janson comes from a farm that is far from average size. His home farm has 8,400 acres with 1,400 acres of tillable land and they have about 125 milking cows. Ulf said that in their case they probably would make profitable agreements on their own since they have a large production. The smaller farms benefit most from cooperative agreements.

And, just as each Viking helped move the huge galley, each small farmer aids Sweden's agriculture.

# nd e Economics in nd of night Sun"

by Carole J. Wedner '61



American Swedish News Exchange

fancy vests in yellow or black with knickers of the opposite color.

Smorgasbord is another favorite tradition in Sweden. Small fish, (soured herring and sardines) meat, and cheese make up the before dinner fare. These are served with bread and Schnapps.

The Swedes find it hard to understand how we can eat steak just broiled. They like meat which has been ground up and fixed with other things. Swedish meatballs are a favorite.

Young people are well provided for in Sweden. The goal of the state family policy is to spread the cost of raising a family over the entire population. Assistance is given in the form of goods, cash, and services to families that need it. Home management courses are taught to facilitate housework. The community provide collective laundries to relieve the household drudgery.

The children from the cities have an opportunity to enjoy a summer vacation full of sun, air, nourishing food and invigorating exercise. Many children under fourteen are entitled, by law, to a free journey for vacation purposes. Mothers may accompany small children and housewives with several children have been granted free travel to and from a vacation spot.

Light, hygienic day nurseries and kindergartens care for small children while mothers work. Playgrounds and recreation rooms are provided in the large cities to give a suitable environment for the young people.

Compulsory schooling begins at age seven and continues for seven or eight years. After fourth or sixth

grade, the pupils can elect to leave elementary school for secondary school or go to a special girls school. Young women are given theoretical and practical instruction in Schools of Home Economics (Rural Domestic Schools). Teachers are trained at two Rural Domestic Colleges.

At regular intervals come the traditional festivals which still mean much to the Swedes. The first of May with its preholiday Valpurgis Night the eve before, Midsummer Day, (the anniversary of the founding of Sweden), and many other festivals are celebrated by wearing ancient costumes, decorating with seasonal flowers and greens, performing gay open air dances and lighting huge bonfires. "In August crawfish parties are seasonable. The summer vacations being over, holiday cottages, in woods and by the sea, are illuminated with colored lanterns as a farewell ceremony to the summer season. The bright red little crustaceans add another touch of color as they are served on heaped platters, while congenial sips of the domestic Swedish liquor, brannvin, help heighten the festivity."

In modern Sweden, as in times gone by, holidays provide welcome breaks in the work day routine. For most people the simple pleasures of an evening may be a visit to the movies or listening to a radio program at home. The Swedish broadcasting service is monopolistic and state run, but enjoys a constitutionally independent position. No political pressure is used and different opinions in all fields of politics, culture and religion are vented. Since no advertising is allowed, the costs are defrayed by the listeners who purchase annual licenses.

The contrast presented between rural and urban Sweden is striking. Modern Stockholm has the rapid pulsebeat of an American big city and much of its ambition. It is the scene of bustling activity, carried on in strikingly new buildings of glass and steel. Many of the small towns, on the other hand, retain an idyllic charm. The southern countryside is dotted with low, half timbered houses with thatched roofs set in avenues of willow trees. All in one country can be found the quaint remnants of the past and startling evidence of the never-ending push of progress.

**S**WEDEN—a land of many contrasts: tall sky scrapers and modern buildings sitting a short distance from quaint huts and log houses, modern farms and Lap reindeer herders, democratic procedures and ancient ceremonies, and brightly embroidered antique costumes in closets with up to date outfits.

Although the Swedes have adopted modern dress for everyday life they cherish their ancestral costumes for special occasions. Church day in Dalecarlian in central Sweden brings out the people in all their finery. The women appear clad in wide red broomstick skirts with large designs around the bottom. These are topped with white blouses and small beaded and embroidered vests. The men also wear these

# Water: For Fish or Farm

Irrigation, a vital part of American agriculture.

by Jack Hope '61



Dr. A. J. Pratt

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**W**ITHOUT water, all plant and animal life upon this planet would promptly expire. Water, often considered to be the most readily available agent of agricultural production, promises to pose some very grave problems in the near future of farming. Evidence of the concern over our rapidly waning supply of this life-giving substance are the numerous bills dealing with water use and conservation now being considered in our national, state and local legislatures. Vast projects undertaking the harnessing of water for the provision of flood control, industrial power, irrigation and drinking water can now be found throughout the world. Examples are well known, Hoover Dam in Nevada, the recently-begun Jhelum River power and irrigation undertaking in Pakistan, and southern New York State's "watershed"

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In addition to fulfilling the needs of agriculture, industry and the household, our watersheds, rivers and lakes serve the interests of the commercial fisherman, the waterside landowner, the conservationist and the outdoorsman, not only as a means of income, but as a source of beauty and recreation as well. These last mentioned values, though perhaps not as publicized as the industrial and agricultural benefits, are fully as important and must receive due consideration in any legislation dealing with the situation. Federal, state and local legislators must consider carefully the interests and needs of each group concerned.

Failure to inspect all aspects of these situations has resulted in a great deal of conflict in the past. Dams built for the purpose of hydro-electric power have flooded thousands of acres of irreplaceable wildlife habitat, man-made lakes designed to supply irrigation have become so clogged with silt that the projects were abandoned. Lake Mead, backed up by the mighty "Hoover Dam" is destined to meet this same fate within ten years, according to experts in the field. Pollution of recreational and drinking waters by industrial wastes has become a major problem. All of these cases point to the necessity of the establishment of water-control boards at various government levels, guaranteeing equal representation to each.

Thus far, agriculture has not fared badly in protecting their water interests, for irrigation and erosion control have been two of the prime factors in the water use programs. Far too often, however, industrialists have received far greater attention than have all other groups combined. At the other end of the scale, those who advocate recreational use of the water resources have been almost continual losers, simply because their suggestions have not been backed up with a dollar sign, or because their public-minded proposals have omitted the ever important "how much will it earn us" clause.

Still another fly in the legislative ointment has been the riparian rights doctrine, stating that control over any body of water lies in the hands of those persons owning property bordering the water. Complaints run wild when owners of last year's lake-side cottage discover their home on an oozing sea of mud.

Multiple-use may provide one answer to the predicament. Reservoirs with careful planning, can be constructed to provide both drinking water to the citizenry and to insure maximum recreational benefits to boaters, fisherman, and nature lovers. Dams can be built in such locations so that they will not become silt clogged before the concrete hardens. Flood control projects can simultaneously serve as sources of irrigation. Efficient and imaginative planning are needed along these lines lest we be forced to make decisions such as whether to use our daily quota of water for sprinkling the tulip bed or for giving junior his bath.



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by Steven A. Breth '60

terested in buying one," he says, "but once you find someone who plays the banjo, he will know everyone for a hundred miles around who plays the banjo. You sit down together and he will pluck a few notes and then play a song. Then he asks you to play one. After a while you jump into a car and drive over the hill where there is someone else who plays. This way, you meet everyone in the neighborhood who plays and learn some new songs."

Sleeping in the open was not without its risks. One night as Mavian was dropping off to sleep near a stream in Kentucky he heard the distant baying of hounds. A few minutes later he woke up to see 24 eyes gazing at him in the darkness. One of the hounds came over and started barking with his teeth inches from Mavian's ear. Mavian didn't move until day break when the dogs left.

Mavian arrived in Nashville with \$19.00 in his pocket. It was Saturday night and he went straight to the Opry. Backstage he played the banjo for some of the performers and Bill Monroe, the originator of "blue grass" music, heard him. He asked Mavian to leave his name and address and come back on Monday. Unfortunately, Mavian had no address because he couldn't afford to rent a room.

He answered an advertisement asking for college students to sell encyclopedias. In the first three days of selling he made \$200 in commissions. "I don't know what happened," he says in amazement, "it must have been the northern accent that got them." At the end of a week he quit and went to work playing the banjo for a group called the Cumberland Mountain Boys.

AN ARMENIAN in Tennessee, who goes to Cornell and plays the banjo on Grand Ol' Opry; it's hard to believe," said Bill Maples, music columnist for the *Nashville Tennessean*, one day last summer. Maples was talking about Bob Mavian, Cornell Vet student who left Long Island last summer with a car, sleeping bag, guitar, banjo, and a hundred dollars in his pocket and wound up playing every Saturday night on Grand Ol' Opry in Nashville, Tennessee.

Bob Mavian drove out of New York heading south hoping to make enough money along the way to reach Nashville. In West Virginia, he tried to get a job in the coal mines but they weren't hiring. He says. "It would have been fun, then I could have sung, 'Dark is the Dungeon' while I worked."

As he wandered through the South camping by the side of the road or a stream at night, Mavian stopped in every sleepy town and inquired whether anyone had a banjo for sale. "I wasn't really in-

Small bands like the Cumberland Mountain Boys are mainstays of the Grand Ol Opry. Each part of the five hour show is emceed by a star such as Red Foley or Marty Robbins. The stars perform and then introduce one of the many bizarrely named bands—the Gully Jumpers, the Fruit Jar Drinkers, the Possum Hunters, and so on. After playing on the Opry, the group travels about the countryside billed as an Opry band.

For three months, Mavian traveled through the rolling hills of western Tennessee, Kentucky, and Alabama playing at night and sometimes in the afternoons. The members of the band ranged from 20 to 68 years old. Money wasn't their primary goal although they had to live. . . they just like to play. On free afternoons they would set up in a village square and just play for anyone who stopped to listen.

The climax of each week was the playing on the Opry. Mavian got spot assignments playing with bands throughout the five hour program. Testifying to his skill was the fact that Mavian played banjo frequently with Bill Monroe, a short-tempered perfectionist. After the show was over the performers met back stage and played for pleasure. One person starts off and the others join in and play until the small hours of the morning.

The secret of Mavian's quick acceptance by hardbitten professionals is his mastery of the difficult three finger method of banjo picking. Most banjo players strum the instrument, but by picking each string individually with a rapid-fire movement of the first three fingers, the banjo becomes a solo instrument instead of just background.

Mavian first started playing when he got a guitar at the age of 12. He took a few lessons but quickly tired of unimaginative instruction. He taught himself to play hill-billy and folk music by listening to records. While still a teenager in high school, he was playing and singing in Washington Square in Greenwich Village.

He began making the rounds of folk sings in Manhattan apartments. Here he met Harry and Jeanie West, Pete Seeger, and Roger Sprung.

A friend took Mavian to West Virginia to go "banjo buying." Mavian was so taken with the hospitality of the southern people that he decided to go to West Virginia Wesleyan College so that he could be close to music he loves.

But in order to get into Cornell's Vet School, Mavian found it necessary to transfer to Cornell. He applied four times to various undergraduate colleges at Cornell. Apparently the admissions office didn't think that someone from a tiny West Virginia college could do Cornell work, but finally they accepted him on his fifth try. He ran an 85 average his first term here.

At present Mavian is giving guitar and five-string banjo lessons to many students around campus. In addition, he is picking banjo with a blue grass band with the novel name of "The Johnson Bros. and Bob Mavian." They are playing for local square dances and folk sings.

Why does an urban reared young man love country music? It stems from the easy-going, natural atmosphere that country music evokes and Mavian's gift for the music.

Men who play it can sit down together, any place, any time, and express all their moods on their instruments from uproarious gaiety to somber blues.

Mavian couldn't be more at home with country music if he had been raised on hominy grits and sow belly. When the radio plays he accompanies it with his banjo and often he can play a new song after hearing it only once or twice. Sometimes, in the middle of the night he will leap out of bed to try out a tune that has suddenly occurred to him. This habit has gained him the enmity of many of his landladies.

By making the Grand Ol' Opry, this city boy reached a place that few people who are born to country music even hope to reach. Bill Maples wrote in his column, "Music City Beat," "Many are the aspiring young pickers and singers who have come to Nashville cold to try to break into the music profession. And many are the youngsters who have gone away disappointed. One of the most determined we've heard of is Bob Mavian . . . a first rate five-string banjo picker."

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## **Around The Quad in England**

by Natalie L. Gundry '58

IT WAS the beginning of the Michermas term, the first of the three in the school year and the city of Cambridge was making its profits on the many student purchases. How strange it seemed to see a burly freshman buying, not a beer mug but a tea set! Don't underestimate the importance of teatime in England, among even the most bohemian students.

That night I met three fellow Cambridge students whom I had become acquainted with on the boat. They spent most of the evening explaining to me that a "college" is everything but the actual lectures and examinations at a university. Each has its own name, dormitory, and chapel and there are dozens at each university. Each acts as a combination fraternity, advisor, and tutor.

Everywhere along the cobblestoned streets, past the greengrocer, fishmonger, chemist, public bar, and fish and chips saloon, down every narrow alley and in every main road, there are bicycles. A car is still a luxury in England and students ride bicycles—rain or shine.

Students wear academic gowns over their regular clothing. To further help keep the peace, the proctor of each college walks around Cambridge each night and visits the gatherings scheduled by students. I saw one walking along the other night, dressed in an academic gown and mortarboard and carrying an ivory-handled walking stick. On either side of him were his "bulldogs" or assistants dressed in top hats, white ties, and tails. If they find a student without his gown, they question and, usually, fine him.

There's an international atmosphere about Cambridge with many students from Commonwealth nations there. Americans underestimate the close tie between Britain and the rest of the Commonwealth. Englishmen read news of Canada, Africa, or Jamaica just as a New Yorker reads of California.

Students are required to do much more work on their own than we are. Usually first examinations are after a year or a year and a half of study. Extra-curricular activities are very unimportant here. True, there are sports like crew, cricket, rugby, and soccer, and a few clubs, but a student comes to a place like



Cambridge only to study. A university education is still given only to a few fortunate people and very few take it for granted. The classics and arts are still considered most important, and though sciences have been established for many years, they are still considered newcomers.

Many Cambridge students go to smaller institutions first for more technical and practical subjects. The University of Reading, for example, is well known for its agriculture and horticulture, though it offers classics as well. It takes only three years to earn a bachelor's degree, four for a degree with honors. After a fifth year, a student can earn his master's degree.

One and two-year institutes and colleges are another important part of the educational system, especially in agriculture. The one-year institutes are purely practical and require a year's work experience upon entrance. They teach nothing which doesn't have immediate practical application. These institutes run their own farms, called market gardens and the students are required to make them commercially profitable. For instance, the Kent Farm Institute is in the heart of the fruit growing area of England. It owns large acreages of apple, pear, and cherry orchards, all the equipment to care for them, huge carbon dioxide storage facilities, and packing sheds. It sends its produce off to the local markets where it must compete with other growers' at growers' prices. This whole organization is student-run.

The two-year agricultural colleges provide somewhat more theoretical information. Time is equally divided between class hours and field practice. Regular universities, such as Reading, emphasize the scientific background necessary for good production, though even its courses are more practical than the majority of Cornell's.

Wye College, part of the University of London, is a very fine college of agriculture. Its students have the reputation of being among the most spirited in England. Prince Phillip was scheduled to visit Wye last November. The students decided that they would "ambush" this very popular leader. But he heard of the plot and, upsetting all sorts of royal precedents, he arrived half an hour early and unescorted.

The students weren't ready but this didn't phase them. As soon as the duke had been seated, with appropriate decor, in the large dining hall, a firecracker was shot off beneath the table, and the skylight opened to let in a huge grinning dummy of Guy Fawkes. Guy Fawkes, in the days of the English "Glorious Revolution," tried to blow up the houses of Parliament but was caught and executed. He had espoused the "cause of the common man," however, and the people began Guy Fawkes Day, where children push home-made dummies of Guy around in baby carriages and beg for a "penny for Guy." Later in the evening they build huge bonfires in the streets and burn poor Guy. But this Guy landed in the duke's lap and was cast aside as Phillip made a quick but smiling getaway from the roaring Wye College student body.

Natalie Gundry, a former editor (1956-1957) of the *Countryman*, is studying floriculture in England on a fellowship—Editor.



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A Former Exchange Student Says:

## Europeans Don't Know Us

by D. Guy Burns '59

AMERICANS have become increasingly distressed about the Communist gains in the current cold war. The advent of Sputnik has marked a turning point in the position of the United States in the modern world. The United States must now make use of personal contact to raise its prestige and solidify the democratic camp.

This past year, I studied in Denmark under a seminar program. While abroad, I learned much about European attitudes toward Americans. It is astonishing to note their lack of contact with the average American. They want to know us in every possible way, yet the only way in which they seem able to accomplish this is through our gangster and cowboy films, the American tourists and press agencies.

It is hard to visualize a nation when you live so far away and only receive information through routine channels. Europeans read opinions of America which originate from all corners of the globe. These opinions are very often conflicting. The Danish have asked



Guy Burns (center), one of America's student ambassadors of good will.

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many probing questions about American attitudes and seeming contradictions in foreign policy.

I have been frequently asked, in regard to Sputnik's success, "Why is the United States behind, when you have always been first in everything?" Many Europeans have learned to associate "being first" with the United States. A Danish newspaper printed this comment: "If the United States is such a peace-loving nation, why must she use guns to fight Communism?" This statement appeared as a protest against our shipment of arms to the Near East.

Questions such as these are indicative of the distrust of Americans felt by many Europeans. This distrust makes it difficult for underdeveloped countries to gain maximum benefits from our economic aid. America is a great agricultural nation. With our resources and knowledge we can assist these countries to increase their domestic agricultural production, thereby partially relieving them of their dependence on foreign nations for raw materials.

Until we learn to understand each other's beliefs and traditions, it will be impossible to extend effective aid to underdeveloped nations. This world is in need of more direct contact among the people of foreign nations. To aid other nations, we must first learn their customs.

This understanding can be increased by sending abroad students of democracy who can adjust easily to hard living conditions, and who are willing to help people of underdeveloped countries to raise their living standards. Our ambassadors are the American people, men and women who are willing to learn foreign language and customs, in order to create friends and ease international tension.



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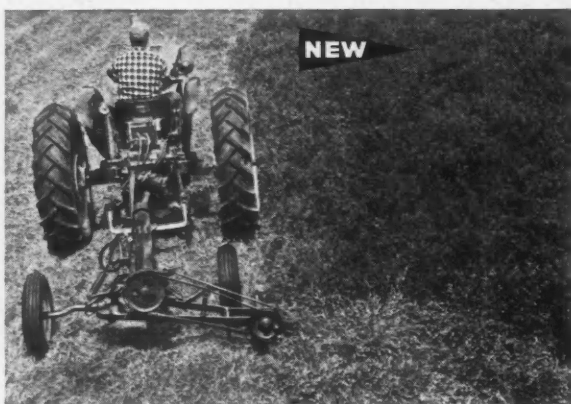
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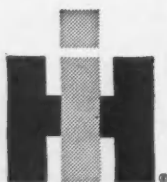


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